

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PORT O 02032 130453Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-09 EB-08 COME-00 DLOS-09  
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 /054 W  
-----118865 140631Z /21  
R 121827Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2654  
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 02032

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EFIS, TD, VE  
SUBJECT: FISHING INCIDENTS CONTINUE

REF: PORT OF SPAIN 1812

1. GUARDIAN OF JULY 11 REPORTED THAT VENEZUELAN COAST  
GUARD DETAINED NINE TRINIDADIAN FISHERMEN AND THEIR FOUR  
BOATS IN THE GULF OF PARIA THE PREVIOUS SATURDAY. THE  
"ARREST" WAS ORIGINALLY REPORTED BY THE BOAT OWNERS WHO  
SAID THEY OBTAINED THEIR INFORMATION FROM A VENEZUELAN  
FISHERMAN WHO SAILS TO PORT OF SPAIN EVERY DAY.

2. SUBSEQUENT PRESS REPORTS INDICATE THAT THE MEN WERE  
RELEASED THROUGH THE INTERVENTION OF T&T'S AMBASSADOR TO  
VENEZUELA. THE MEN WERE ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN FISHING IN  
WATERS PROHIBITED TO THEM UNDER THE BILATERAL FISHING  
AGREEMENT (PATOS) AND DID NOT WEAR THE FISHING BADGE WHICH  
IS SPECIFIED IN THE AGREEMENT.

3. ALTHOUGH THE EXCHANGE OF NOTES GIVING EFFECT TO THE  
AGREEMENT HAS NOT YET TAKEN PLACE, AN EDITORIAL IN THE  
EXPRESS ARGUES THAT IT LOOKS LIKE THE AGREEMENT IS NOT  
WORTH THE PAPER IT IS WRITTEN ON, SINCE THE "HARRASSMENT"  
CONTINUES.

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4. COMMENT. IT APPEARS THAT THE TRINIDADIAN FISHERMEN MAY  
NOT HAVE BEEN ENTIRELY BLAMELESS IN THIS INCIDENT, AND WE  
EXPECT THERE WILL BE MORE INCIDENTS OF THIS KIND BEFORE  
THE PARAMETERS OF THE AGREEMENT BECOME AN ACCEPTED PART OF  
FISHING HABITS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE GULF. FOX

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TREATY RATIFICATION, FISHING AGREEMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978PORTO02032  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780288-0787  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 PORT OF SPAIN 1812  
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**Review Event:**  
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**TAGS:** EFIS, TD, VE  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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20 Mar 2014  
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